

CITY OF WINCHESTER
COMMON COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 2014

Pledge of Allegiance – Mayor Croyle
Prayer – Mayor Croyle

Regular meeting @ 6:45 p.m.
Council Chambers / City Hall / 113 E. Washington St.

Mayor Croyle called the meeting to order and presided over the meeting. Clerk-Treasurer, Vicki Haney, recorded the minutes.

The Clerk's roll call showed four City Council Members present.

Precinct 1	Councilor Larry Preston	
Precinct 2	Councilor Tom Sells	absent
Precinct 3	Councilor Santiago (Jim) Nunez Jr.	
Precinct 4	Councilor Leesa Friend	
At Large	Councilor Todd Schroeder	

Additional Officials Present:

Meeks Cockerill, City Attorney; Mike Burk, Police Chief; and Bill Yost, Fire Chief

Citizens Present:

Fred Davis

Media Present:

Bill Richmond (News Gazette)

Approval of the Minutes:

Councilor Preston moved to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2013 meeting. Councilor Schroeder seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Fountain Park Cemetery

Councilor Preston reported the month of December was very busy. There were 75 interments in 2013, which included 12 cremations. Mrs. Laverna Hawley established a trust in the amount of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) that was bequeathed to the Cemetery and the interest from an additional trust was received. The interest from Old National Bank Trust was Thirty Six Thousand Dollars (\$36,000.00) which was deposited in December. 2013 expenditures were disbursed. Certain fees may need to be increased to aid in generating revenue for the Cemetery. Suzanne Fogleman is working in the office half days during the week and a gentleman is working in the Cemetery approximately 18 hours per week completing maintenance. Two bids were submitted for mowing; the Board will review the bids. Extensive research has been completed by Fred Davis that indicates the City owns the Cemetery. Mr. Davis explained the research he has completed about the Cemetery. Mr. Davis is not in favor of the Perpetual Fund. The Perpetual Fund should be a Permanent Maintenance Fund. Many items have been

found that show the Cemetery is owned by the City. Mr. Davis would like to review this information with certain people. There is a lot of history in the Fountain Park Cemetery that should be preserved. The current Board works well together. The Cemetery Board has a guest speaker each month and Councilor Nunez would like Mayor Croyle to be the guest speaker in March. . The annual spring cleaning of the cemetery will be May 17-26, 2014. Councilor Preston would like more involvement from the City and citizens in 2014.

Gateway Project

Mayor Croyle explained the City is ready to move forward with the Gateway Project. The bids for the project came in much higher than anticipated; the State has provided the City the necessary funding to start the project. The Redevelopment Commission has committed Twelve Thousand Dollars (\$12,000.00) for this project. A funding source for the City Council was discussed with Clerk-Treasurer Haney. Council previously committed a local match of Riverboat Gaming Revenue in the amount of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) for this project. The Cumulative Capital Improvement (CCI) Fund could be an additional source of revenue, up to Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00). Councilor Nunez moved to commit up to Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) from the CCI Fund to the Gateway Project. Councilor Schroeder seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

Street Sign Replacement Project

The Request for Proposals (RFP's) was published and four companies responded. The RFP's are in the scoring process and will be forwarded to INDOT (Indiana Department of Transportation) for acceptance. This project is moving forward. Signs located in the southern portion of the City will be upgraded.

NEW BUSINESS

Cast Metals Technology (CM-Tech) Tax Abatement

Cast Metal Technology, 1036 N Old Highway 27, Winchester, Indiana, is requesting tax abatement; they are desiring to install an automated molding line to support the production of cast aluminum products and creating at least 5 new jobs at a payroll of One Hundred Fifty Thousand (\$150,000.00). Attorney Cockerill has prepared two resolutions. Attorney Cockerill has the Statement of Benefits form. The area needs to be declared an Economic Revitalization Area (ERA), the preliminary resolution granting tax abatement should be approved; then a public hearing will be held on February 3, 2014. The public hearing will give interested persons the opportunity to remonstrance and object the tax abatement. At the conclusion of the public hearing the Council may take final action on the proposed designation.

Resolution No. 2014-1

Resolution No. 2014-1 was presented by Cast Metals Technology and was entitled, "RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WINCHESTER, INDIANA, REGARDING THE DESIGNATION OF AN ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION AREA." Councilor Schroeder moved to have the reading of Resolution No. 2014-1 by title only. Councilor Nunez seconded. Motion passed 4-0. Reading complete. Councilor Schroeder moved to approve the reading of Resolution No. 2014-1. Councilor Nunez seconded. Motion passed 4-0. Thus it becomes Resolution No. 2014-1.

Resolution No. 2014-2

Resolution No. 2014-2 was presented by Cast Metals Technology and was entitled, "COMMON COUNCIL OF WINCHESTER, INDIANA, A PRELIMINARY RESOLUTION GRANTING TAX ABATEMENT TO CAST METALS TECHNOLOGY, INC." The addition to their business will provide five new positions (at a salary of Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000.00 per year) and 30 existing jobs will be retained. The equipment that is purchased has to be new to Indiana for the tax abatement.

The amount of the tax abatement for equipment is Six Hundred thousand Dollars (\$600,000.00) for 10 years (at a rate of ten percent per year). A discussion was held about the current number of jobs and equipment used.

Councilor Schroeder moved to have the reading of Resolution No. 2014-2 by title only. Councilor Preston asked if Cast Metals Technology has any current tax abatements. The current tax abatement will expire in three or four years. Councilor Nunez seconded. Motion passed 4-0. Reading complete. Councilor Schroeder moved to approve the reading of Resolution No. 2014-2. Councilor Nunez seconded. Motion passed 4-0. Thus it becomes Resolution No. 2014-2.

Public Hearing for Tax Abatement

A public hearing shall be held for Cast Metal Technology tax abatement on Monday, February 3, 2014 at 6:30 pm.

Resolution No. 2014-3

Resolution No. 2014-3 was presented by Clerk-Treasurer Haney and was entitled, "RESOLUTION FOR TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS OF DEPARTMENTAL BUDGETS OF VARIOUS FUNDS, CITY OF WINCHESTER, INDIANA." Clerk-Treasurer Haney stated the adjustments to line items within the Departmental Budgets need to be approved by Council. Councilor Schroeder moved to have Resolution No. 2014-3 read by title only. Councilor Friend seconded. Motion passed 4-0. Reading complete. Councilor Schroeder moved to approve the reading of Resolution No. 2014-3. Councilor Friend seconded. Motion passed 4-0. Thus it becomes Resolution No. 2014-3.

City of Winchester and EDP Renewables Lease

Mayor Croyle explained the City owns 188 acres of land adjacent to where a wind farm will soon be located. As a "good neighbor" policy, EDP Renewables (wind farm), will pay a one-time payment to the landowners in the area who are willing participants in the project. The company presented an agreement to grant easements in that area. The wind farm will pay Forty Dollars (\$40.00) per acre. Attorney Cockerill has reviewed and approved the documents. Councilor Schroeder moved to allow Mayor Croyle to enter into a lease agreement with the granting of easements with EDP Renewables. Councilor Friend seconded. Councilor Schroeder asked if the revenue generated had to be used for the Beeson. Attorney Cockerill stated that it does. Councilor Preston asked if this project will hinder the work done by Halderman Farm Management and Bob Heaton, lessee of the City Farm. Attorney Cockerill stated it will not. This will also not decrease the tillable acres. Councilor Preston asked what the easement gives them the right to do. Attorney Cockerill stated it is a "good neighbor" easement and a onetime only payment. If they were going to do anything with the land, another schedule would be attached to current easement. Motion passed 4-0.

Aging in Place

Mayor Croyle stated the Board of Public Works and Safety approved several (6) properties for the homeowner repair program (Aging In Place). A property that was previously withdrawn due to the passing of the owner will be presented for approval to the Board of Public Works and Safety on January 21, 2014. Additional properties could be presented to the Board for consideration in the future.

Public Concerns

Councilor Nunez stated the street sign on Washington Street for North East Street is still missing. The sign needs to be replaced.

Department Reports

Bill Yost, Fire Department – submitted a written report.

Kathy Bond, Parks Department Superintendent – submitted a written report.

Mike Burk, Police Department – submitted a written report.

Frank Lowrance, Street Department – everything is going great. The streets are being cleaned and the trash is being collected. Councilor Nunez stated the Street Department is working hard. Councilor Nunez asked the citizens to clear their sidewalks and fire hydrants. Councilor Schroeder moved to accept the Department Reports. Councilor Preston seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

Accounts Payable Vouchers

The end of December accounts payable vouchers (APV) totaled One Hundred Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety One Dollars and Six Cents (\$108,991.06). This total includes the renewal of the City's Property and Risk Management Insurance.

General Fund	\$77,921.10
Motor Vehicle Highway Fund	\$3,683.71
Employee Welfare Benefit Fund	\$25,828.30
Win Police Dept Prof Development	\$725.24
Cum. Capital Development Fund	\$564.65
Animal Control Donation Fund	\$268.06

The January 1 thru January 15 accounts payable vouchers totaled Three Hundred Fifty Eight Thousand Three Hundred Sixty Five Dollars and Seventy Cents (\$358,365.70).

General Fund	\$91,003.24
Motor Vehicle Highway Fund	\$16,440.61
Light Fund	\$4,870.06
Court Cash Due County Fund	\$1,050.00
LLE Continuing Ed. Fund	\$1,071.93
City Court User Fee Fund	\$576.00
Fire Pension Fund	\$3,184.05

Ambulance Non Reverting Fund	\$585.42
Win Pol Dept. Prof Development	\$18.95
Gateway Improvements	\$132,876.54
Cum. Capital Development Fund	\$60,702.56
Weed Assessment Fund	\$84.00
Sidewalk Rehabilitation Fund	\$5,000.00
Employee Welfare Benefit Plan	\$40,040.50
Animal Control Fund	\$861.84

The Payroll accounts payable vouchers totaled One Hundred Thirty Thousand Three Hundred Ninety Three Dollars and Thirty Four Cents (\$130,393.34). This payroll includes Phone Stipends, Clothing Allowances, and Certification Pay for applicable departments. The total of all accounts payable vouchers totaled Five Hundred Ninety Seven Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars and Ten Cents (\$597,750.10). Councilor Schroeder moved to approve the accounts payable vouchers. Councilor Friend seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Cancellation of Warrants

Clerk-Treasurer Haney explained the yearly process for the cancellation of warrants. The total to be considered for cancellation is Seven Hundred Seventy Dollars and Two Cents (\$770.02). Councilor Schroeder moved to approve the Cancellation of Warrants. Councilor Nunez seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

Clerk-Treasurer's Report

Clerk-Treasurer Haney stated the City did achieve a balanced budget for the 2013 budget year. The revenue for all City Funds was Six Million Seventy Seven Thousand Five Hundred Thirty Three Dollars and Two Cents (\$6,077,533.02). The expenses for all the City Funds was Five Million Seven Hundred Thirty Eight Thousand Five Hundred Sixteen Dollars and Seventeen Cents (\$5,738,516.17). The total remaining from receipts was Three Hundred Thirty Nine Thousand Sixteen Dollars and Eighty Five Cents (\$339,016.85). The total balance in all City Funds is Five Million Three Hundred Thirty Seven Thousand Two Hundred Sixty Eight Dollars and Thirty Seven Cents (\$5,337,268.37). The budgets for the Park Fund and the Light Fund both exceeded revenues. Revenue may need to be reallocated for these funds. The City Departments and Council was fiscally responsible to the taxpayers in 2013.

Technology Upgrades

Clerk-Treasurer Haney stated Angela Newman, IT, has a concern about the Windows 8 upgrades. She would like to work in the evenings to complete the updates for the next two or three months. She would like to set up a VPN connection to help with computer issues during the day. The total cost of this will be approximately Thirty Dollars (\$30.00) per month. Councilor Schroeder moved to approve the use of a VPN and the associated costs. Councilor Friend seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

Capital Improvement Plan (EDIT)

Mayor Croyle has amended the Capital Improvement Plan (EDIT Plan). The plan will be presented to the EDIT Board. Funding has been added for the Gateway Project and the Journey Home Project. Projects which have been completed have been deleted from the EDIT plan.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Croyle will be attending a Mayor's Round Table on January 23, 2014. Specific legislation will be discussed with IACT (Indiana Association of Cities and Towns). Mayor Croyle serves on legislative committees for IACT.

A follow-up meeting will be held with Work One to discuss the Advancing Manufacturing Program. The current class is being taught at Winchester Community High School. The Redevelopment Commission helped supply the necessary tools for this program.

The electricity in City Hall is being upgraded and cameras are being added to the outside for security. Mayor Croyle is trying to keep the building maintained.

Announcements

The Board of Public Works and Safety will meet January 21, 2014 at 8:00 am in the Council Chambers.

The Randolph County Economic Development Board will meet January 21, 2014 at 7:00 pm.

A kickoff meeting for the Wind Turbine Project will be on January 24, 2014.

Adjournment

There being no further matters to discuss, Councilor Schroeder moved to adjourn. Councilor Nunez seconded. Motion passed 4-0. The January 20, 2014 meeting was adjourned at 7:32 pm.

Mayor, Steve Croyle

ATTEST: _____
Clerk-Treasurer, Vicki Haney